

State of Alaska

Induced Termination
of Pregnancy Statistics
2006

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Alaska Induced Termination of Pregnancy Statistics 2006

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Introduction

Alaska Induced Termination of Pregnancy Statistics, 2006, published by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, contains information about induced terminations that occurred in Alaska during calendar year 2006.

Why is induced termination reporting important? Induced termination data can be used to:

- Monitor trends in the number, rate, and ratio of induced terminations.
- Assess changes in the types of procedures used to end a pregnancy and the gestational age (in weeks) when induced terminations are performed.
- Calculate pregnancy rates.
- Identify the characteristics of women who may be at risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and programs to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Unintended pregnancy refers to pregnancies that are unwanted or when the mother wanted to be pregnant at a later date. In Alaska, 44.2 percent of all pregnancies that resulted in a live birth were unintended during 2004¹. In the U.S., it is estimated that 49 percent of pregnancies are unintended with about half of these pregnancies ended by an induced termination². Thus reducing the number of unintended pregnancies would likely reduce the number of induced terminations.

Alaska has followed the recent national trend in birth rates. From 1996 to 2005, the fertility rate in Alaska has increased 3.5 percent, while the teen birth rate declined 24.6 percent. However, birth rates are based only on the number of live births and may change as a result of the rate at which women become pregnant, the rate at which pregnancies are ended in an induced termination, or a combination of both. Induced termination reporting can provide a better understanding of which factors are driving the birth rate in Alaska.

¹ Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, 2004 data.

² Henshaw SK, Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, *Family Planning Perspectives*, 1998, 30(1):24–29 & 46.

Reporting Issues

The information in this report is based on induced termination of pregnancy reports received by the Bureau of Vital Statistics as of January 24th, 2007. A copy of the form used to report induced termination of pregnancies is located in Appendix B. Definitions of the terms used in this report are located in Appendix A. In this report, the term induced termination of pregnancy is used synonymously with induced termination.

In Alaska, reports of induced terminations of pregnancy are mandated by AS 18.50.245. Hospitals, clinics, or other institutions where an induced termination is performed are required to submit a report to the Bureau. The report cannot contain the name of the patient, but must contain information similar to the United States Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy, as published by the National Center for Health Statistics. Reports of induced terminations are strictly confidential and must be destroyed after preparing the annual report.

Alaska Statutes also require that any reports produced from induced termination of pregnancy forms may only be presented in aggregate form so that specific individuals may not be identified. Furthermore, the report may not identify or provide information that can be used to identify the name of the physician who performed the induced termination, the name of the facility where the induced termination occurred, or the name of the municipality or community in which the induced termination occurred. Because of the reporting guidelines outlined in state statutes, induced termination statistics by borough or census area are not available for publication.

This report contains information on induced terminations that occurred in Alaska. In the past several years over 200 Alaska women on average obtained induced terminations out of state. For example, 234 Alaska women obtained induced terminations in Washington State during 2005³. It is unknown how many Alaska women obtained induced terminations in states other than Washington. Since the out of state occurrence data is incomplete, it is not included in this report.

Pregnancy rates are based on the total number of live births, induced terminations, and fetal deaths per 1,000 women of childbearing age. Currently, population estimates for 2006 are unavailable, so pregnancy rates cannot be calculated. Additionally, birth data for 2006 is preliminary, since data for Alaska residents who gave birth out of state is incomplete. The induced termination information for 2006, however, is final. Information on pregnancy rates, induced termination rates, and induced termination ratios is posted on the Bureau's web site; www.vitalrecords.alaska.gov.

In 2005, Alaska law and regulations were amended to change the reporting requirements for induced terminations of pregnancy and to add a section relating to informed consent when conducting induced terminations. The changes to state law requires the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to maintain a web site containing information on fetal development, induced termination, pregnancy, and family planning. The web site also has resources associated with pregnancy-related social and health services in Alaska. The informed consent web site is located at www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/wcfh/informedconsent/default.htm. Second, the Bureau of Vital Statistics is required to monitor whether the unidentified patient requested and received a written copy of the information required to be maintained on the Internet. The regulations took effect midnight August 21, 2005.

³ Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health. Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics report, 2005.

Executive Summary

- A total of 1,923 induced terminations were reported in Alaska in 2006, with Alaska residents accounting for 98.0 percent of the induced terminations that occurred in Alaska. This is a decrease of 1.7 percent from the 1,956 induced terminations reported in 2005.
- In Alaska, 59.6 percent of women who obtained an induced termination in 2006 reported they had no previous induced terminations. One of every seven women (14.8 percent) reported that they had two or more previous induced terminations.
- Most (53.9 percent) of the women who obtained induced terminations in 2006 were less than 25 years of age. In the most recent year for which national data are available (year 2003), 50.9 percent of women who obtained an induced termination were less than 25 years of age⁴.
- Women age 15 to 17 accounted for 6.3 percent of all induced terminations in Alaska during 2006, a decrease from 6.5 percent in 2005.
- Teens (age 15 to 19 years) received 18.8 percent of the induced terminations in 2006. In 2003, 17.4 percent of women in the U.S. who obtained an induced termination were 19 or under.
- In Alaska, 79.7 percent (excluding unknown responses) of women who obtained an induced termination in 2006 were unmarried. In the U.S., the most recent information shows 82.1 percent of women who obtained an induced termination were unmarried.
- In 2006, 55.2 percent of women who obtained an induced termination in Alaska reported they had one or more previous live births. Nationally, 59.8 percent of U.S. women who received an induced termination in 2003 reported they had one or more previous live births.
- More than nine of every 10 (94.0 percent) of induced terminations in Alaska were performed at 12 weeks or less gestational age. In 2003, 88.2 percent of induced terminations performed in the U.S. involved pregnancies of 12 weeks or less gestational age.
- Suction curettage was the most commonly performed procedure in Alaska at 77.3 percent and Mifepristone (RU-486) was second at 21.9 percent. Suction curettage was used in 88.3 percent of induced terminations performed in the U.S. during 2003.
- Unmarried, white women age 20 to 29 accounted for more than one-fourth (26.3 percent) of all induced terminations performed in Alaska during 2006.
- Over one-third (36.9 percent) of all women who obtained induced terminations in Alaska during 2006 reported that they used their own financial resources as the source of payment; 40.6 percent reported that Medicaid was the source of payment.
- In 2006, one induced termination report in Alaska indicated that the pregnancy was terminated due to the detection of a congenital anomaly.
- Most women (84.4 percent; 89.3 percent excluding unknowns) who undergo an induced termination did not request a copy of the information contained in the informed consent website. However, 14.7 percent (15.4 percent excluding unknowns) did report receiving a copy of the information contained in the informed consent website.

⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Surveillance Summaries, November 24, 2006. MMWR 2006:55 (No. SS-11).

Table 1 Summary of Characteristics of Women Receiving Induced Terminations: Alaska Occurrence, 2004–2006

	2006		2005		2004	
	Induced Terminations	Percent	Induced Terminations	Percent	Induced Terminations	Percent
Residence						
Alaska	1,885	98.0	1,943	99.3	1,934	99.8
Other State	12	0.6	8	0.4	3	0.2
Not Stated	26	1.4	5	0.3	0	0.0
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Age						
Under 15	7	0.4	12	0.6	10	0.5
15–19	362	18.8	374	19.1	417	21.5
15–17	121	6.3	128	6.5	144	7.4
18–19	241	12.5	246	12.6	273	14.1
20–24	667	34.7	679	34.7	677	35.0
25–29	447	23.2	421	21.5	389	20.1
30–34	224	11.6	242	12.4	236	12.2
35–39	147	7.6	146	7.5	139	7.2
40–44	45	2.3	70	3.6	62	3.2
45 and over	9	0.5	7	0.4	6	0.3
Not Stated	15	0.8	5	0.3	1	0.1
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Race						
Asian/PI	157	8.2	108	5.5	145	7.5
Black	141	7.3	131	6.7	146	7.5
Alaska Native	400	20.8	437	22.3	400	20.7
White	1,112	57.8	1,162	59.4	1,170	60.4
Other/Not Stated	113	5.9	118	6.0	76	3.9
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Marital Status						
Married	338	17.6	339	17.3	326	16.8
Unmarried	1,532	79.7	1,547	79.1	1,599	82.6
Unknown/Not Stated	53	2.8	70	3.6	12	0.6
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Education						
Less than 12 years	264	13.7	282	14.4	271	14.0
12 years	996	51.8	826	42.2	873	45.1
13 or more years	454	23.6	684	35.0	574	29.6
Other/Not Stated	209	10.9	164	8.4	219	11.3
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Previous Live Births						
0	845	43.9	814	41.6	856	44.2
1	457	23.8	490	25.1	477	24.6
2	340	17.7	348	17.8	330	17.0
3	156	8.1	169	8.6	166	8.6
4	70	3.6	73	3.7	56	2.9
5 or more	39	2.0	48	2.5	44	2.3
Not Stated	16	0.8	14	0.7	8	0.4
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Previous Induced Terminations						
0	1,146	59.6	1,281	65.5	1,223	63.1
1	466	24.2	431	22.0	442	22.8
2	184	9.6	126	6.4	187	9.7
3	64	3.3	50	2.6	41	2.1
4	20	1.0	23	1.2	20	1.0
Over 4	16	0.8	9	0.5	11	0.6
Not Stated	27	1.4	36	1.8	13	0.7
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0
Weeks of Gestation¹						
1–4	26	1.4	23	1.2	42	2.2
5–8	1,127	58.6	1,101	56.3	1,081	55.8
9–12	655	34.1	733	37.5	723	37.3
13–16	87	4.5	76	3.9	72	3.7
17–20	0	0.0	5	0.3	11	0.6
21–24	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.1
Not Stated	28	1.5	17	0.9	7	0.4
Total	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0	1,937	100.0

¹ Gestation based on the physician's estimate.

Table 2 **Number of Induced Terminations by Race and Age:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	157	0	8	21	45	31	27	19	3	2	1
Black	141	0	4	18	55	39	17	4	3	0	1
Alaska Native	400	2	30	55	160	89	34	21	5	1	3
White	1112	3	73	132	363	261	137	95	32	5	11
Other/Not Stated	113	0	6	15	44	27	9	8	2	1	1
Total	1,923	5	121	241	667	447	224	147	45	9	17

Table 3 **Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Race:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	100.0	0.0	5.1	13.4	28.7	19.7	17.2	12.1	1.9	1.3	0.6
Black	100.0	0.0	2.8	12.8	39.0	27.7	12.1	2.8	2.1	0.0	0.7
Alaska Native	100.0	0.5	7.5	13.8	40.0	22.3	8.5	5.3	1.3	0.3	0.8
White	100.0	0.3	6.6	11.9	32.6	23.5	12.3	8.5	2.9	0.5	1.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	5.3	13.3	38.9	23.9	8.0	7.1	1.8	0.9	0.9
Total	100.0	0.3	6.3	12.5	34.7	23.2	11.6	7.6	2.3	0.5	0.9

Table 4 **Induced Terminations by Race and Percentage by Age:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	8.2	0.0	6.6	8.7	6.7	6.9	12.1	12.9	6.7	22.2	5.9
Black	7.3	0.0	3.3	7.5	8.2	8.7	7.6	2.7	6.7	0.0	5.9
Alaska Native	20.8	40.0	24.8	22.8	24.0	19.9	15.2	14.3	11.1	11.1	17.6
White	57.8	60.0	60.3	54.8	54.4	58.4	61.2	64.6	71.1	55.6	64.7
Other/Not Stated	5.9	0.0	5.0	6.2	6.6	6.0	4.0	5.4	4.4	11.1	5.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5 Number of Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	338	0	3	21	74	91	62	53	24	6	4
Unmarried	1532	5	116	213	572	343	158	90	19	3	13
Unknown/ Not Stated	53	0	2	7	21	13	4	4	2	0	0
Total	1,923	5	121	241	667	447	224	147	45	9	17

Table 6 Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Marital Status:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	100.0	0.0	0.9	6.2	21.9	26.9	18.3	15.7	7.1	1.8	1.2
Unmarried	100.0	0.3	7.6	13.9	37.3	22.4	10.3	5.9	1.2	0.2	0.8
Unknown/ Not Stated	100.0	0.0	3.8	13.2	39.6	24.5	7.5	7.5	3.8	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	0.3	6.3	12.5	34.7	23.2	11.6	7.6	2.3	0.5	0.9

Table 7 Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	17.6	0.0	2.5	8.7	11.1	20.4	27.7	36.1	53.3	66.7	23.5
Unmarried	79.7	100.0	95.9	88.4	85.8	76.7	70.5	61.2	42.2	33.3	76.5
Unknown/ Not Stated	2.8	0.0	1.7	2.9	3.1	2.9	1.8	2.7	4.4	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8 Number of Induced Terminations by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	5	0	2	2	1	0	0	0
Methotrexate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	422	16	396	3	0	0	0	7
Sharp Curettage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suction Curettage	1,486	10	723	648	85	0	0	20
Other/Not Stated	10	0	6	2	1	0	0	1
Total	1,923	26	1,127	655	87	0	0	28

Table 9 Induced Terminations by Type of Procedure and Percentage by Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Methotrexate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	21.9	61.5	35.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0
Sharp Curettage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	77.3	38.5	64.2	98.9	97.7	0.0	0.0	71.4
Other/Not Stated	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

Table 10 Induced Terminations by Weeks of Gestation and Percentage by Type of Procedure: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	100.0	0.0	40.0	40.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Methotrexate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	100.0	3.8	93.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Sharp Curettage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	100.0	0.7	48.7	43.6	5.7	0.0	0.0	1.3
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	60.0	20.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
Total	100.0	0.0	60.0	20.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	10.0

Table 11 Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	709	3	32	89	218	171	106	55	21	5	9
Insurance	63	0	4	5	14	15	13	9	3	0	0
Medicaid	780	3	61	113	312	173	63	46	4	1	4
Multiple Payment Sources	19	1	2	1	6	3	5	1	0	0	0
Other/Not Stated	352	0	22	33	117	85	37	36	17	3	2
Total	1,923	7	121	241	667	447	224	147	45	9	15

Table 12 Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	36.9	42.9	26.4	36.9	32.7	38.3	47.3	37.4	46.7	55.6	60.0
Insurance	3.3	0.0	3.3	2.1	2.1	3.4	5.8	6.1	6.7	0.0	0.0
Medicaid	40.6	42.9	50.4	46.9	46.8	38.7	28.1	31.3	8.9	11.1	26.7
Multiple Payment Sources	1.0	14.3	1.7	0.4	0.9	0.7	2.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	18.3	0.0	18.2	13.7	17.5	19.0	16.5	24.5	37.8	33.3	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 13 Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Method of Payment:
Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	100.0	0.4	4.5	12.6	30.7	24.1	15.0	7.8	3.0	0.7	1.3
Insurance	100.0	0.0	6.4	7.9	22.2	23.8	20.6	14.3	4.8	0.0	0.0
Medicaid	100.0	0.4	7.8	14.5	40.0	22.2	8.1	5.9	0.5	0.1	0.5
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	5.3	10.5	5.3	31.6	15.8	26.3	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	6.3	9.4	33.2	24.1	10.5	10.2	4.8	0.9	0.6
Total	100.0	0.4	6.3	12.5	34.7	23.2	11.6	7.6	2.3	0.5	0.8

Table 14 **Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2006**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	709	109	77	55	424	44
Insurance	63	5	3	4	49	2
Medicaid	780	239	47	66	376	52
Multiple Payment Sources	19	2	0	0	15	2
Other/Not Stated	352	45	30	16	248	13
Total	1,923	400	157	141	1,112	113

Table 15 **Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2006**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	36.9	27.3	49.0	39.0	38.1	38.9
Insurance	3.3	1.3	1.9	2.8	4.4	1.8
Medicaid	40.6	59.8	29.9	46.8	33.8	46.0
Multiple Payment Sources	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.8
Other/Not Stated	18.3	11.3	19.1	11.3	22.3	11.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 16 **Induced Terminations by Race and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2006**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	15.4	10.9	7.8	59.8	6.2
Insurance	100.0	7.9	4.8	6.4	77.8	3.2
Medicaid	100.0	30.6	6.0	8.5	48.2	6.7
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	78.9	10.5
Other/Not Stated	100.0	12.8	8.5	4.5	70.5	3.7
Total	100.0	20.8	8.2	7.3	57.8	5.9

Table 17 Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	709	168	526	15
Insurance	63	18	44	1
Medicaid	780	77	676	27
Multiple Payment Sources	19	4	15	0
Other/Not Stated	352	71	271	10
Total	1,923	338	1,532	53

Table 18 Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	36.9	49.7	34.3	28.3
Insurance	3.3	5.3	2.9	1.9
Medicaid	40.6	22.8	44.1	50.9
Multiple Payment Sources	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	18.3	21.0	17.7	18.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 19 Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2006

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	23.7	74.2	2.1
Insurance	100.0	28.6	69.8	1.6
Medicaid	100.0	9.9	86.7	3.5
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	21.1	78.9	0.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	20.2	77.0	2.8
Total	100.0	17.6	79.7	2.8

Appendix A: Definitions

Gestational Age - The number of weeks between the first day of the last menstrual period and the date of delivery or the end of the pregnancy. This report uses the physician's estimate of gestational age.

Induced Termination of Pregnancy - The purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus, and which does not result in a live birth.

Induced Termination Procedures:

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) - a procedure that is generally used after 12 weeks of gestation and is usually done on an outpatient basis. Dilation and Evacuation may involve a combination of vacuum aspiration, dilation and curettage (D&C), and the use of surgical instruments (such as forceps).

Hysterectomy - a surgical procedure in which the uterus is removed either with the fetus inside or after the fetus has been removed. It is rarely performed in association with an induced termination, and then only when a pathological condition of the uterus (such as fibroid tumors) or an emergency warrants its removal.

Hysterotomy - a surgical procedure that involves surgical entry into the uterus (as in a cesarean section) and the removal of a fetus that is too small to survive, even with extraordinary life support measures. Hysterotomy is rarely performed and then only if other induced termination procedures fail.

Mifepristone (also known as RU-486) - usually used along with a prostaglandin for ending pregnancies of up to 49 days gestation. The administration of mifepristone causes the placenta to detach from the uterine wall. A second drug (misoprostol) is given two days later to induce uterine contractions, expelling the products of conception.

Methotrexate - interferes with the vitamin folic acid and kills rapidly growing cells. It is also used for the nonsurgical treatment of ectopic pregnancies (when fertilized eggs grow outside the uterus). Methotrexate is administered by injection and is followed 5 to 7 days later with misoprostol to stimulate uterine contractions.

Saline/Prostaglandin (Intrauterine Instillation) - rarely used procedures that involve either withdrawing a portion of amniotic fluid from the uterine cavity by a needle inserted through the abdominal wall and replacing this fluid with a concentrated salt solution (known as saline instillation) or injecting a prostaglandin (a substance with hormone-like activity) into the amniotic sac (known as intra-uterine prostaglandin instillation). Both processes induce labor, resulting in the expulsion of the fetus.

Sharp Curettage (Dilation and Curettage, D&C) - requires the dilation (temporary widening) of the cervix (the uterine opening). The fetal and placental tissues are then scraped out with a curette, which resembles a small spoon.

Suction Curettage (Vacuum Aspiration) - a frequently performed procedure that is generally used in the first 12 weeks of gestation (the first trimester). This procedure is done on an outpatient basis and may be done in a physician's office or a clinic.

After the cervix is dilated, a flexible cannula (a small, hollow tube) is inserted into the uterus through the cervix. The tube is attached to a pump, which is used to evacuate the uterine contents through the cannula.

Spontaneous Abortion - The loss of a fetus during pregnancy due to natural causes.

Appendix B: Sample of Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report Form

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

1) PATIENT'S AGE		2) DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____		3) CITY WHERE TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY OCCURRED	
4) PATIENT'S ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> MEXICAN <input type="checkbox"/> PUERTO RICAN <input type="checkbox"/> CUBAN <input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER OR UNKNOWN HISPANIC			5) PATIENT'S RACE <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AFRICAN AMERICAN (BLACK) <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE ALASKAN OR AMERICAN INDIAN <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		6) CITY AND STATE WHERE PATIENT RESIDES
			7) MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		8) EDUCATION (SPECIFY THE HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED) ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY (0-12) COLLEGE (1-4 OR 5+)
PREVIOUS PREGNANCIES (COMPLETE EACH SECTION. DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.)					
9) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS		10) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS SPONTANEOUS ABORTIONS			
9A) NOW LIVING NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	9B) NOW DEAD NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE		11) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INDUCED TERMINATIONS OF PREGNANCIES (DO NOT INCLUDE THIS TERMINATION) NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE	
12) PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTATION COMPLETED WEEKS _____		13) DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____		14) METHOD OF PAYMENT <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	
15) PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO TERMINATE PREGNANCY (CHECK ONE ONLY) 15A) <input type="checkbox"/> SUCTION CURETTAGE 15B) <input type="checkbox"/> DILATION AND EVACUATION 15C) <input type="checkbox"/> SHARP CURETTAGE 15D) <input type="checkbox"/> SALINE 15E) <input type="checkbox"/> PROSTAGLANDIN 15F) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERECTOMY 15G) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTEROTOMY 15H) <input type="checkbox"/> MIFEPRISTONE 15I) <input type="checkbox"/> METHOTREXATE 15J) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____			16) WAS THIS TERMINATION ELECTED DUE TO THE DETECTION OF A CONGENITAL ANOMALY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
			16B) TYPE OF CONGENITAL ANOMALY CHROMOSOMAL ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NEURAL TUBE DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> HEART ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> VENTRAL WALL DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> (SPECIFY) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PATIENT REQUESTED A COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PATIENT RECEIVED A WRITTEN COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032					